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Elizabeth Alexandrina murray Shampson from her dear husband January 10 = 1917. Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2016 with funding from Getty Research Institute

#### **ILLUSTRATIONS**

FROM

# ONE HUNDRED MANUSCRIPTS IN THE LIBRARY OF HENRY YATES THOMPSON

\* \* \*

CONSISTING OF SIXTY-NINE PLATES ILLUSTRATING
TEN MSS. OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES FROM THE
IXTH TO THE XVITH CENTURIES



LONDON: PRINTED AT THE CHISWICK PRESS

1912

FOLIO 2897 L84 T47 1907 V.3 C.2

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#### **PREFACE**

HE ten MSS. illustrated in this volume, the third of the series, had their origin in widely differing countries, from Spain to Samarcand. I should perhaps mention here that the attribution of my Persian MS. to Samarcand is on the authority of Dr. Martin, of Stockholm, who has made a very special study of Persian art. Now Samarcand is about 1,000 miles from Ispahan, or Shiraz, at one of which towns Mr. Kearney considered it probable that the MS. had been produced, and it is likely that a good deal of further study and exploration will be necessary before we arrive at any very certain conclusions about the Miniature Art of Central Asia and Persia. Attention should also be drawn to the relation of Byzantine art to that of more eastern countries. It is impossible to examine any fine Byzantine ornamentation, such as that employed in the Greek Evangel (Plates XX to XXVII of the present volume), without observing an intimate connection between the miniaturists of Constantinople and the carpet-weavers of Central Asia, a connection almost as evident as that with which we are so familiar in the resemblance of the earlier productions of Ireland, Spain, Italy, Germany, and France to the figure painting of Byzantium.

I will only add that, in regard to the Metz Pontifical, the possession of which I owe to a recent bequest under the will

of the late Sir Thomas Brooke, Bart., it would have well deserved more copious illustration. It had, however, been already so completely facsimiled in the volume which its late owner offered to the Roxburghe Club a few years ago, that I felt that little more was required than a reference to that volume and to the admirable description of the MS. by the Rev. E. S. Dewick which is printed therewith.

The two Portulani, of which photographs are given here, I owe to the bequest of my grandfather, the late Joseph Brooks Yates, who died in 1855. They are the most modern MSS. in my hundred and have so far kept their places *pietatis causâ*. In the forthcoming volume of my descriptive catalogue I hope to give the portraits of my two benefactors.

H. Y. T.

19, PORTMAN SQUARE, LONDON.

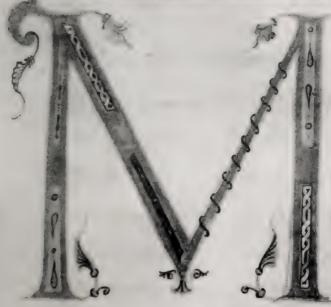
July, 1912.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

PLATES	SHORT TITLE AND NUMBER IN CATALOGUE	DATE	PLACE OF ORIGIN	IMMEDIATE PROVENANCE
I-VIII	c. Latin Gospel. Ninth Century	Circa 850	French (probably Tours)	Sotheby, 1908
IX-XIX	97. Beatus super Apocalypsum	Circa 894	Northern Spain	Library of the Earl of Ashburnham, 1897
XX-XXVII	99. Evangelistarium Graecum	Circa 1100	Constantinople	Hamilton Palace Li- brary
XXVIII-XLIV	100. Persian Literature	1410	Samarcand	Bought from S. Bing, Paris, 1896
XLV-XLVIII	68. French Gospels	Circa 950	North-Eastern France	Library of the Earl of Ashburnham, 1897
XLIX-LI	42. William of Tyre	Circa 1255	Probably Paris	The Didot Library
LII-LVI	CIII. The Metz Pontifical	Circa 1310	Paris or Metz	Bequeathed by Sir Thomas Brooke, 1908
LVII-LVIII	LXXXVII. Polybius: Perotti's Translation	Circa 1470	North Italy	Earl of Ashburnham, Barrois Collection
LIX-LX	95. Portulano by Giovanni Benedetto	1543	Paris or Dieppe	Library of Joseph B. Yates
LXI-LXIX	96. Portulano by Baptista Agnese	Circa 1550	Venice	Library of Joseph B. Yates







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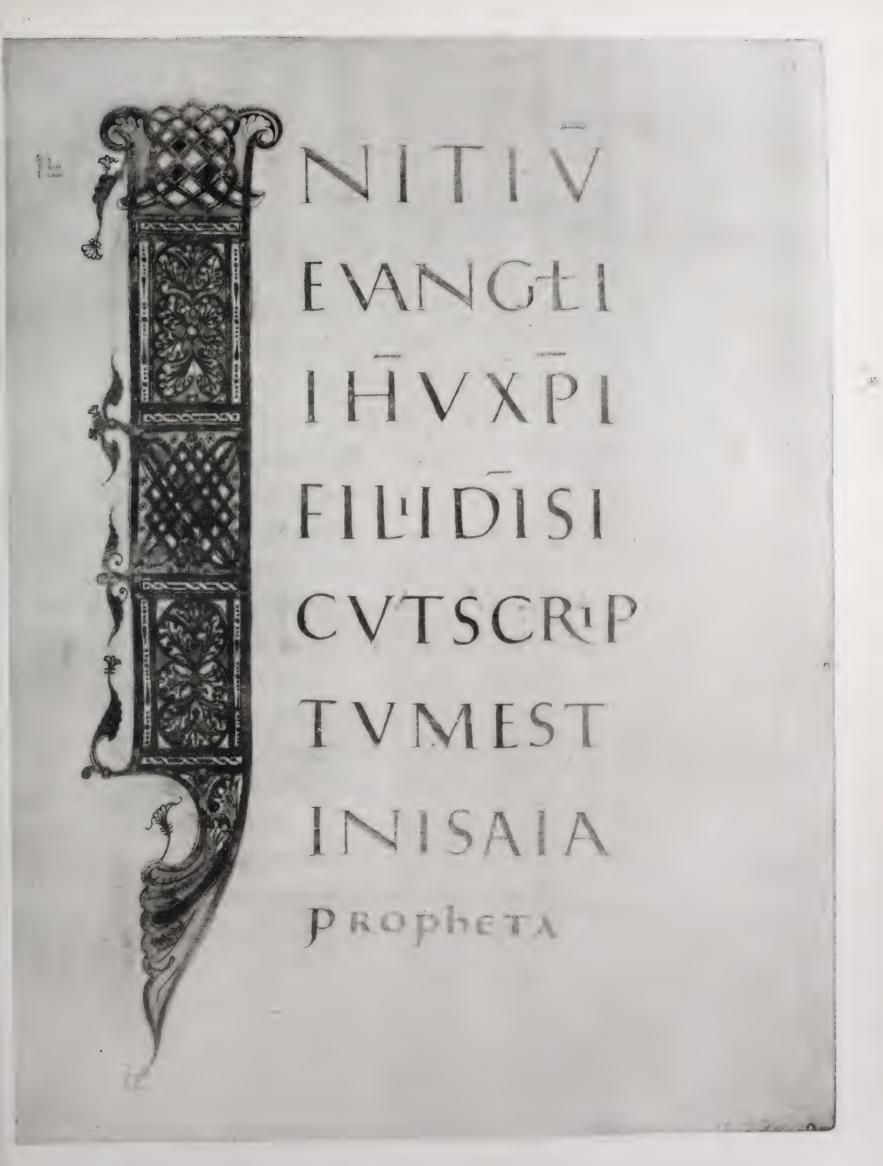
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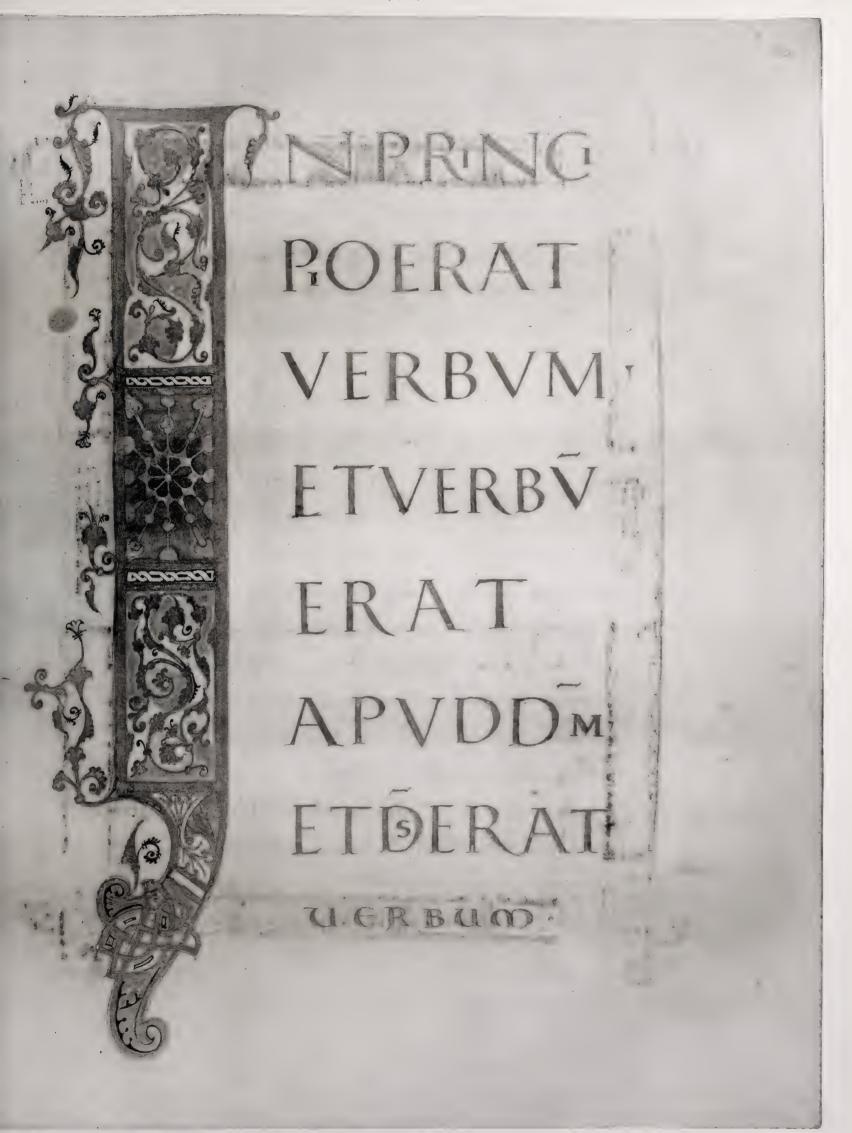
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### Manuscript No. 97 (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

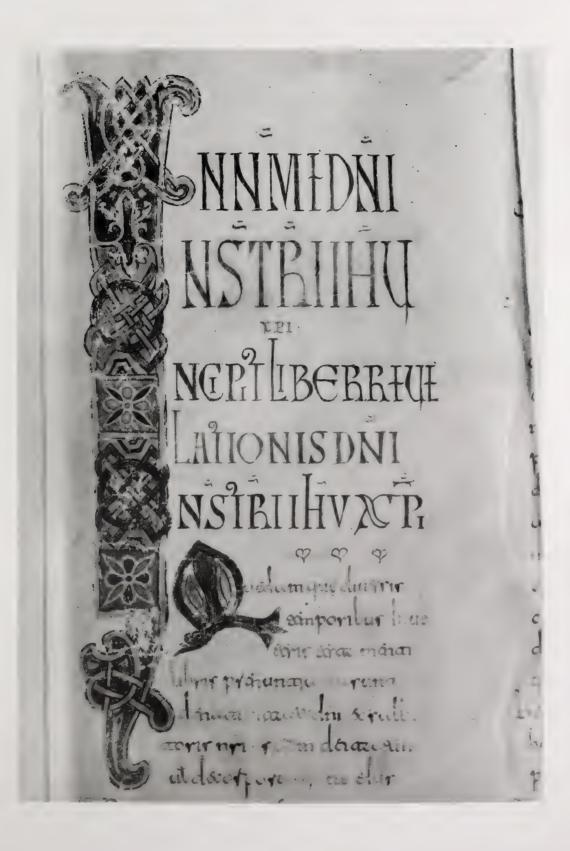
#### BEATUS SUPER APOCALYPSUM

THE volume from which these ten plates are taken was produced in the year 894 A.D. at the command of an abbot named Victor, in a monastery dedicated to St. Michael, in the north of Spain, and is the earliest known copy of a pictorial Spanish Beatus. Its illumination resembles in one respect the early Irish MSS. of about the same date, the figures being much ruder than the ornamentation. The figures, however, are much better drawn, though the ornamentation is far less delicate than what we find in the Celtic masterpieces of Irish art. The colouring is barbaric, reds and yellows (the colours of the Spanish flag) predominating in almost every picture. The figure painting betrays a connection with Byzantium, while the horseshoe arches point to Saracenic influence.

This is the only Spanish MS. in my collection. Though not the earliest in date, it is the most archaic in style, and the most startling in its colouring. In only two of the ninety pictures contained in it has any gold been used, and that sparingly. The plates are very slightly smaller than the originals. The reds come out a good deal darker, and the yellows a good deal lighter in the photographs than they ought to be.

PLATE IX, f. 1. The initial "I" on this page is interesting because of its remarkable resemblance to similar letters in the Latin Gospels last described. The rude Spaniard had evidently seen Tours work, and in his barbaric way carefully imitated it.

PLATE X, f. 9. Among the earlier pages of the MS. were full-page pictures of the Evangelists, and in the case of each of them, the opposite page (this plate shows that opposite to St. Luke) represents two angels who stand facing one another and holding between them a "chasse," containing doubtless the Gospel of the Evangelist represented on the opposite page. Above is a human figure, half length, winged,











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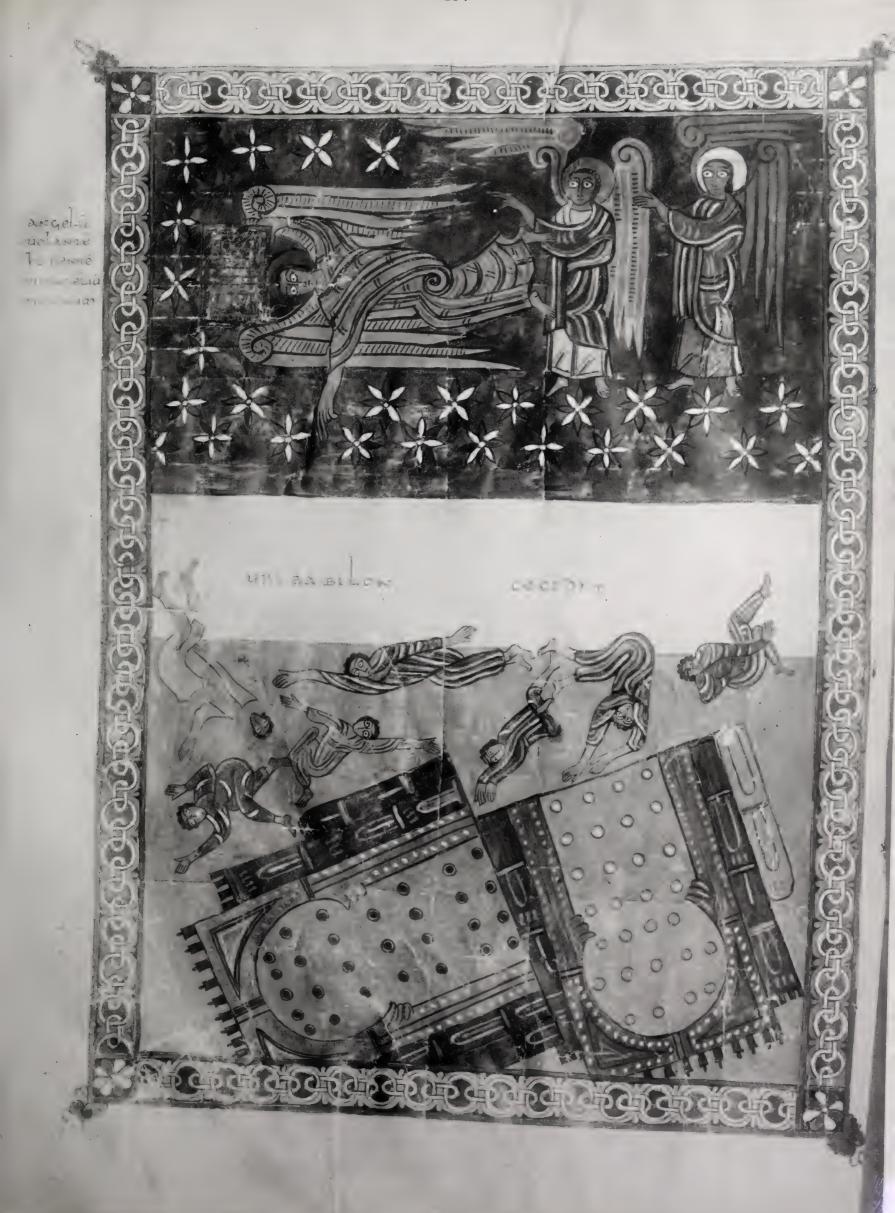
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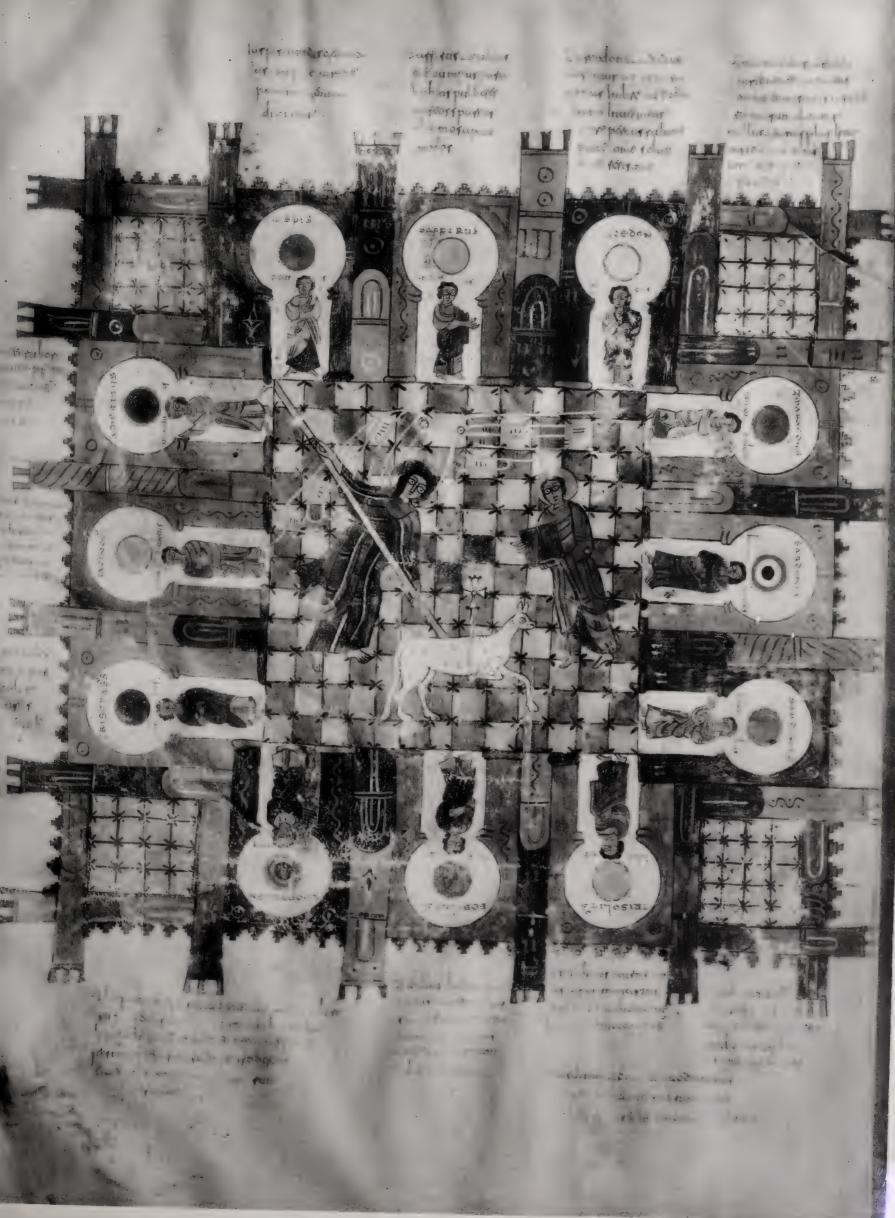






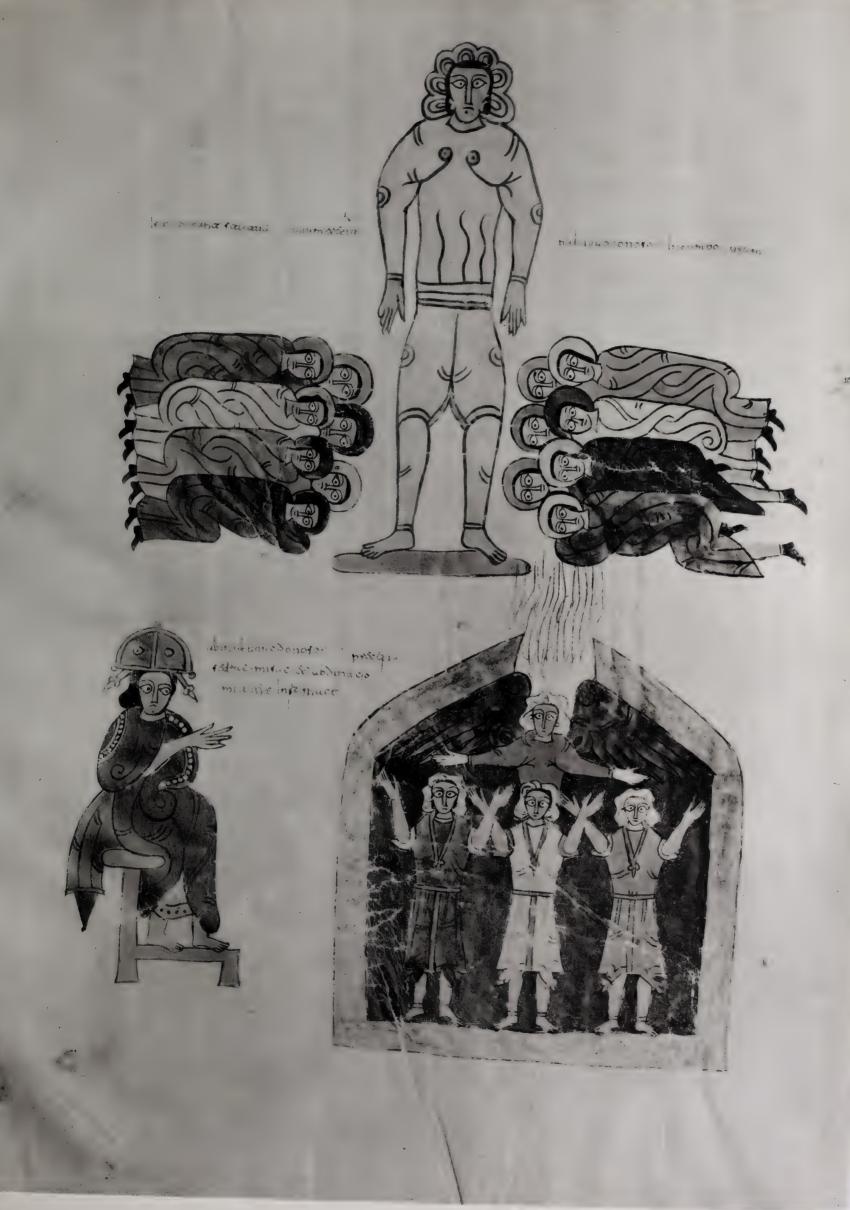


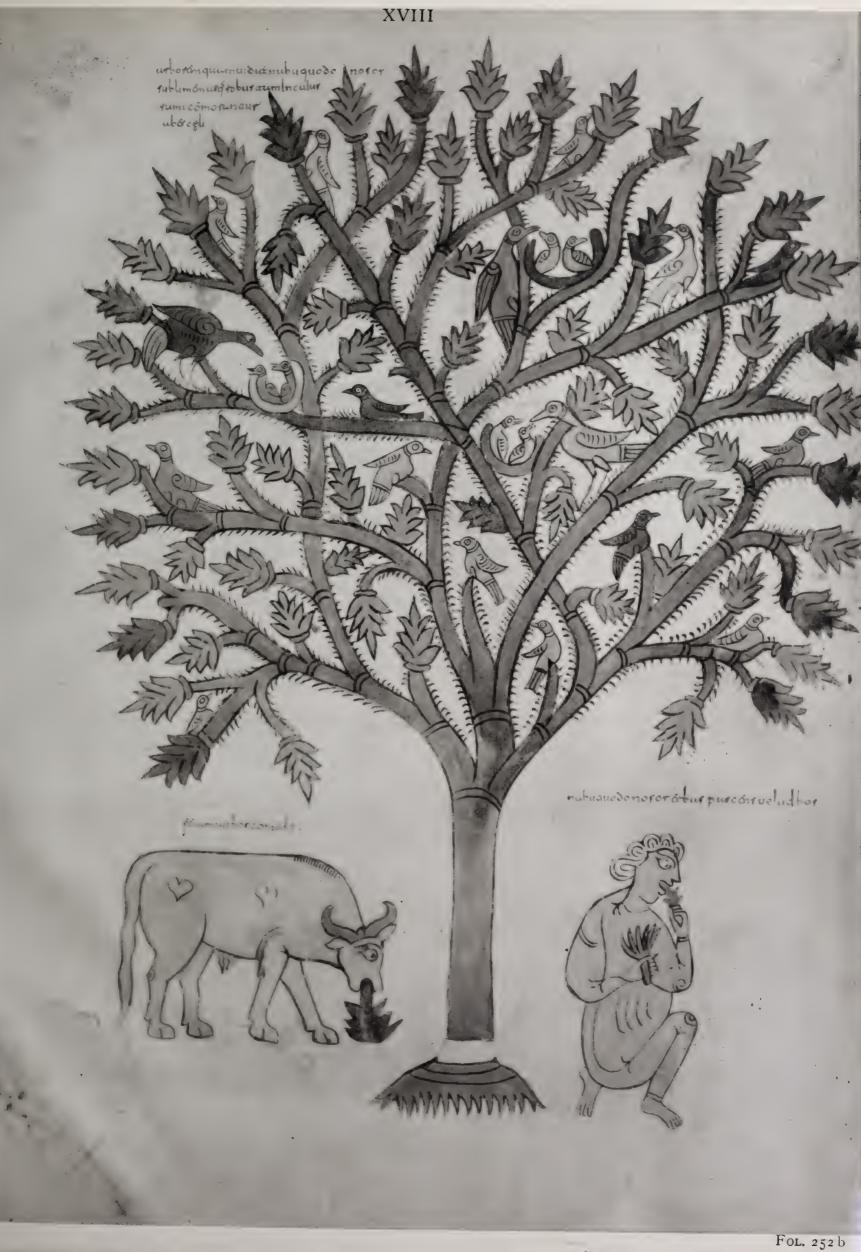














## Manuscript No. 99 (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

### EVANGELISTARIUM GRAECUM

THIS splendid volume began its long life about 1100 A.D. in Byzantium, where it was used for service in one of the many churches that adorned that city. It was numbered 245 in the Duke of Hamilton's Library, at his Palace near Glasgow. The German Government bought it for the Royal Museum of Berlin in 1882, and sold it again with others in 1889. It is not known how the Duke of Hamilton acquired it. The German Government may be supposed to have sold it from motives of economy. It is certain that no finer specimen of Byzantine art adorns their shelves.

PLATE XX, f. 1. The border, in which blue predominates, is of conventional foliage. The writing below, the opening verses of the Gospel of St. John, is in gold, the capital "E" having all the delicacy of an enamel. The picture is divided into two parts: on the left the risen Christ, triumphant in death, grasps the wrist of an aged man (Adam), who emerges from a sarcophagus, while the prostrate Death clutches at his knees, and Eve in red prays in the background. King David and another prophet (? Moses) look on. In the picture on the right, St. John, bearded and nimbed, looks up to the divine hand, while he dictates his gospel to Prochorus, his nimbed secretary.

PLATE XXI, f. 5 and PLATE XXII, f. 19b. Two examples of the stately Greek character in which the book is written, and of the little figures, in this case of St. John, Christ, etc., which, from time to time, are inserted alongside of the text. In Plate XXII are seen (a) a figure of Christ, standing before a tower, from which emerge the heads of two men; (b) three sick persons in beds; (c) a cistern representing the Pool of Bethesda; (d) four figures—the paralytic, with his bed on his back, a Pharisee, a Jew (quite a classical figure), and a scribe.

PLATE XXIII, f. 49. St. Matthew sits in an armchair by his writing-desk, a stylus with a knobbed end in his right hand. The background is of gold, the picture framed in an exquisite border.

PLATE XXIV, f. 125. St. Luke sits on a stool and writes on his knee. Note his inkstand and compasses. The initial "T" of his Gospel has a little figure of St. John worked into it.

PLATE XXV, f. 218. St. Mark seated in a wickerwork chair, with an open book. Among his writing utensils is what looks like a flagon of wine. Buildings in the background, one of them surmounted by an Oriental cupola. A diminutive figure of St. Theodore of Tyre forms part of the initial "T"; he wears a cuirass, blue cloak and red tunic.

PLATE XXVI, f. 294. This picture is in two divisions: on the left, the Synagogue of Nazareth, where Christ sits enthroned, and hands a book to an attendant. On one side of him sit two old Jews, evidently in a state of perplexity; on the other are two disciples. On the right, St. Simon lies dying on a straw mattress, attended by three monks. Behind is his column of red porphyry, with a white capital. A little St. Luke is in the initial "T."

PLATE XXVII, f. 336b. The Presentation, a small square picture, with the usual figures of Simeon, Anna and Joseph.

EVENTEL STARWY

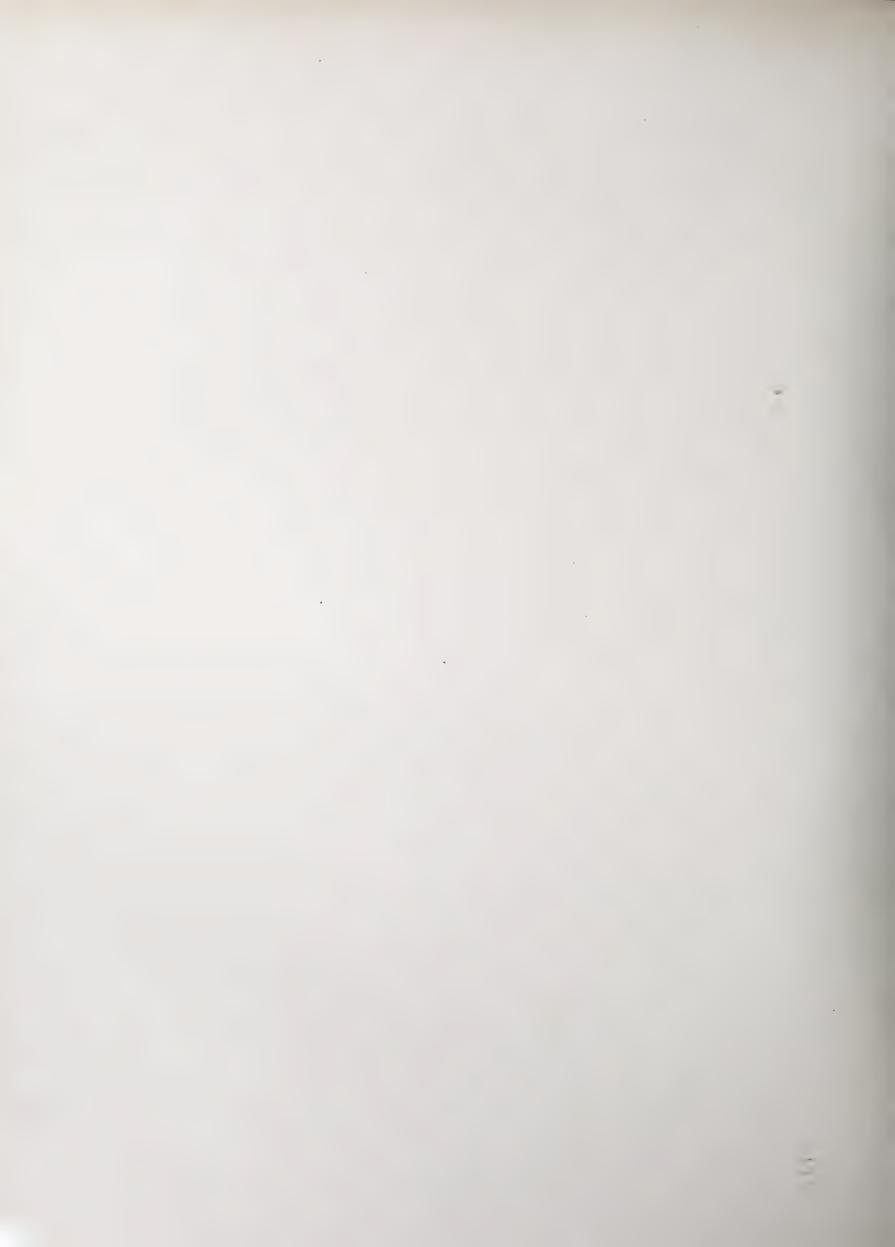
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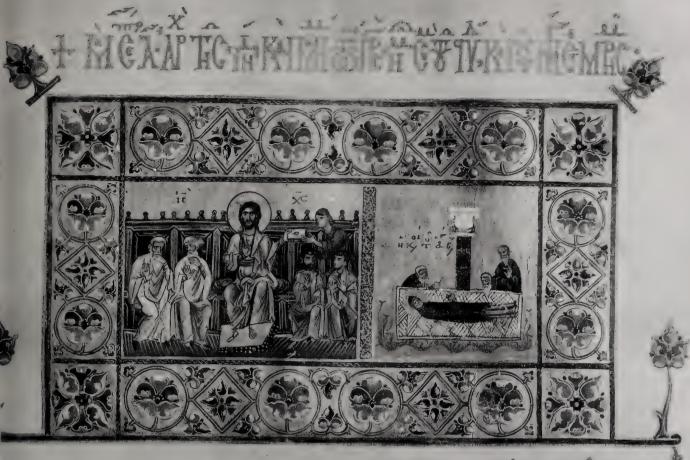




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## Manuscript No. 100 (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

#### COLLECTION OF PERSIAN LITERATURE

THIS MS. was executed most probably at Sander, "the most powerful of Central Asia, for presentation to Iskander, "the most powerful the Kings of the Arabs HIS MS. was executed most probably at Samarcand, in the heart Sultan and the most just Emperor, King of the Kings of the Arabs and Persians, shadow of God in the two countries, Lord of the water and the land, the greatest King, splendour of the world and the Faith; God make his power and sovereignty endure." Its date is 1410 A.D. The Sultan Iskander was the grandson of Timur, the great Turki conqueror, generally known as Tamerlane (b. 1336, d. 1405), and was assassinated a few years after the presentation to him of this volume. I am giving plates of seventeen out of some forty illuminated pages, because the best early Persian work is little known, and because it is interesting to compare it with the best contemporary European bookpainting, e.g., the "Belles Heures du Duc de Berri," the production of which exactly coincides in date with this volume of Persian literature. Strange that the high-water mark of the miniature art should have been reached at almost the same period by painters in two such different atmospheres as those of Christian Paris and Mahometan Samarcand.

PLATES XXVIII and XXIX. The first four pages, forming two beautiful Unwāns (frontispieces, or opening pages). On one of these is found the dedication and panegyrical titles of Iskander quoted above. On another is a list of the works which the writer, Mahmūd bin Murtaza, designed to incorporate in the book. Nothing in Western art surpasses in intricate elaboration these splendid Unwāns, in which blue and gold predominate. Perhaps they are most comparable to some pages of the Book of Kells and the Lindisfarne Gospels.

PLATES XXX, XXXI, XXXII and XXXIII are specimens of the pages of ornament which abound in the volume, and which are generally executed in gold on a plain white ground, as in XXX and XXXI, or in faint colours, as in XXXII and XXXIII.

PLATE XXXIV, p. 13. Grief in the Zenana on account of a poisoned drink. Illustration of a story told in the "Makhzana I Asrar."

PLATE XXXV, p. 33. Khusrau kills a lion before the eyes of Shirin.

PLATE XXXVI, p. 49. Grandeur of Khusrau's court.

PLATE XXXVII, p. 80. Fight between the friends of Laila and the friends of Majnun.

PLATE XXXVIII, p. 105. Majnun dies on Laila's tomb.

PLATE XXXIX, p. 125. Bahram introduced into the Hall of the Seven Images.

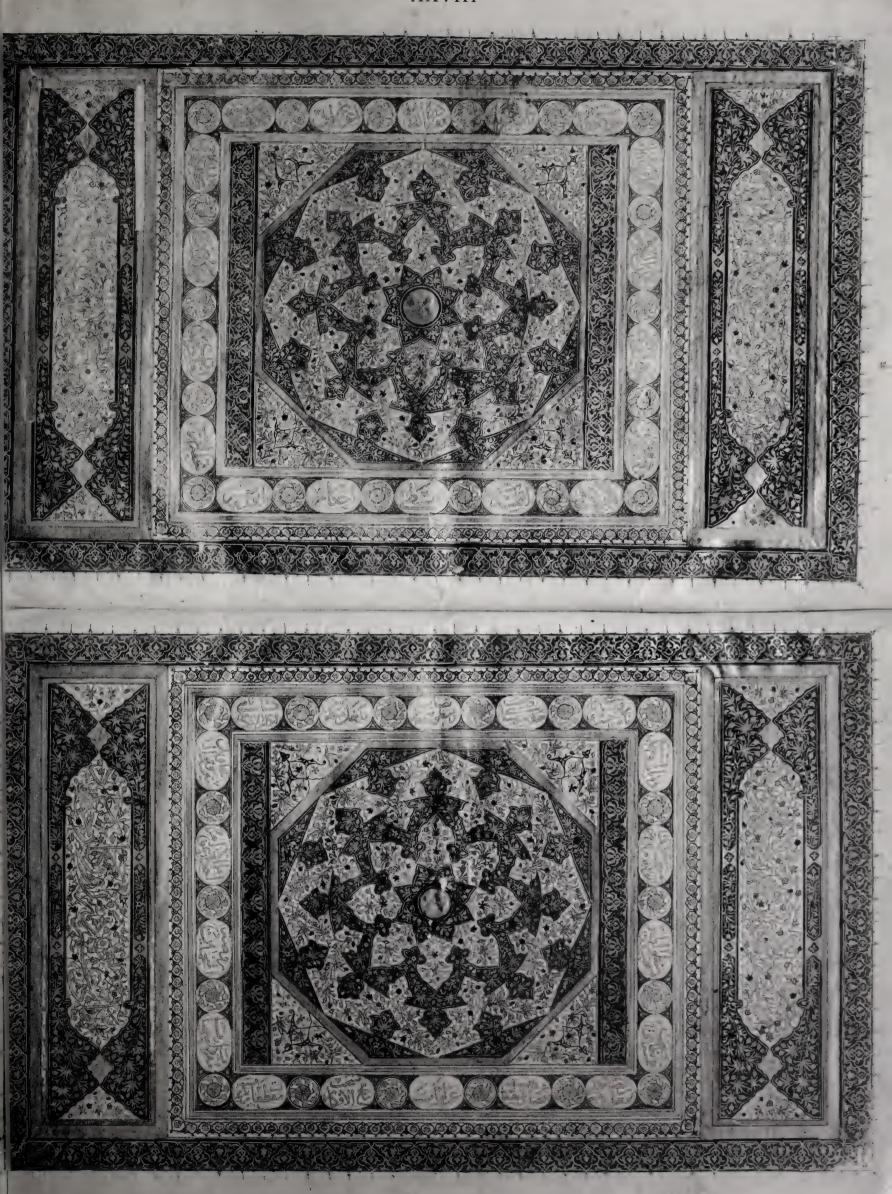
PLATE XL, p. 166. Victory of Alexander the Great, Darius taken and put to death.

PLATE XLI, p. 231. A polo game in which Gustasp is the principal player, but the Emperor of Rome (Greece) is also one.

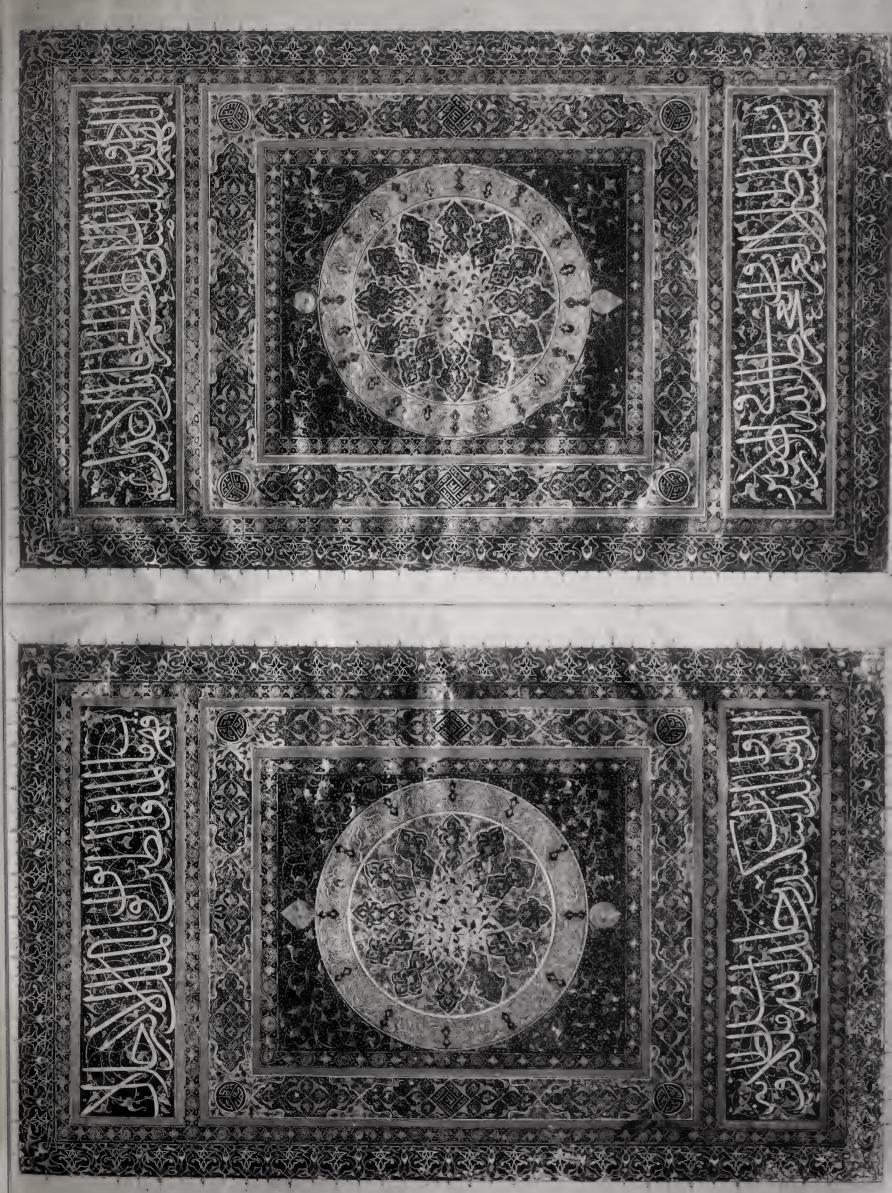
PLATE XLII, p. 472. Adam and Eve in Paradise (illustrating the "Tarikh-i Guzida" in its history of the prophets).

PLATE XLIII, p. 513. Marriage of the Prophet to Khadija (Guzida).

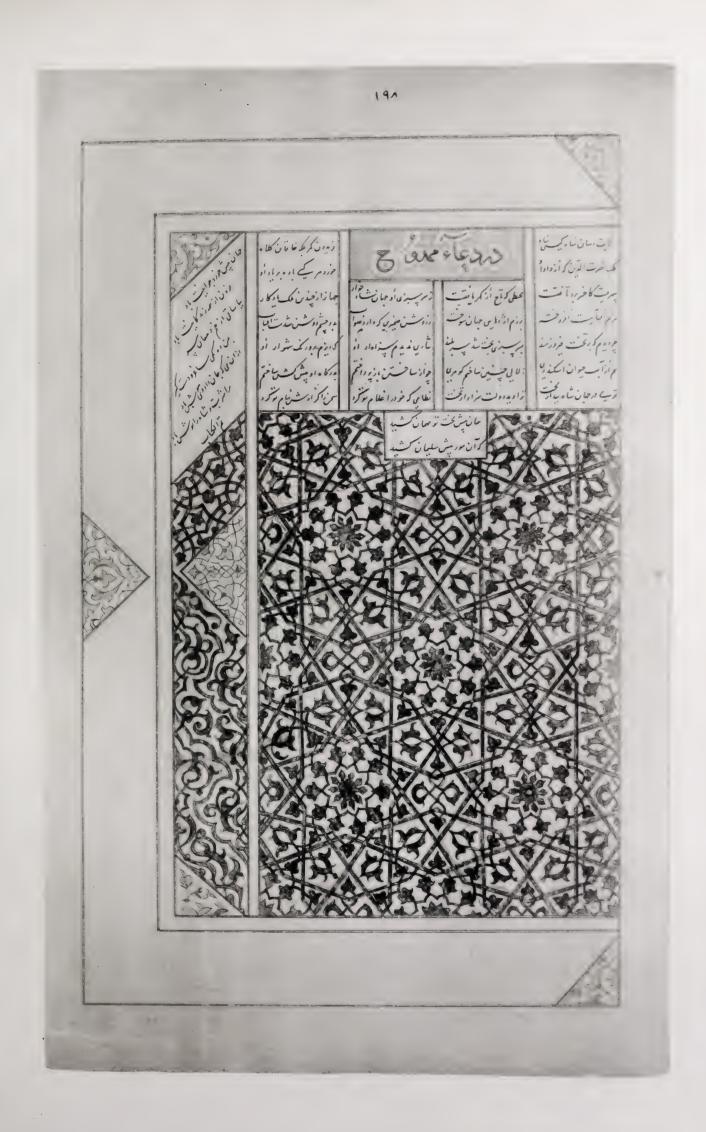
PLATE XLIV, p. 649. Intended sacrifice of Isaac.



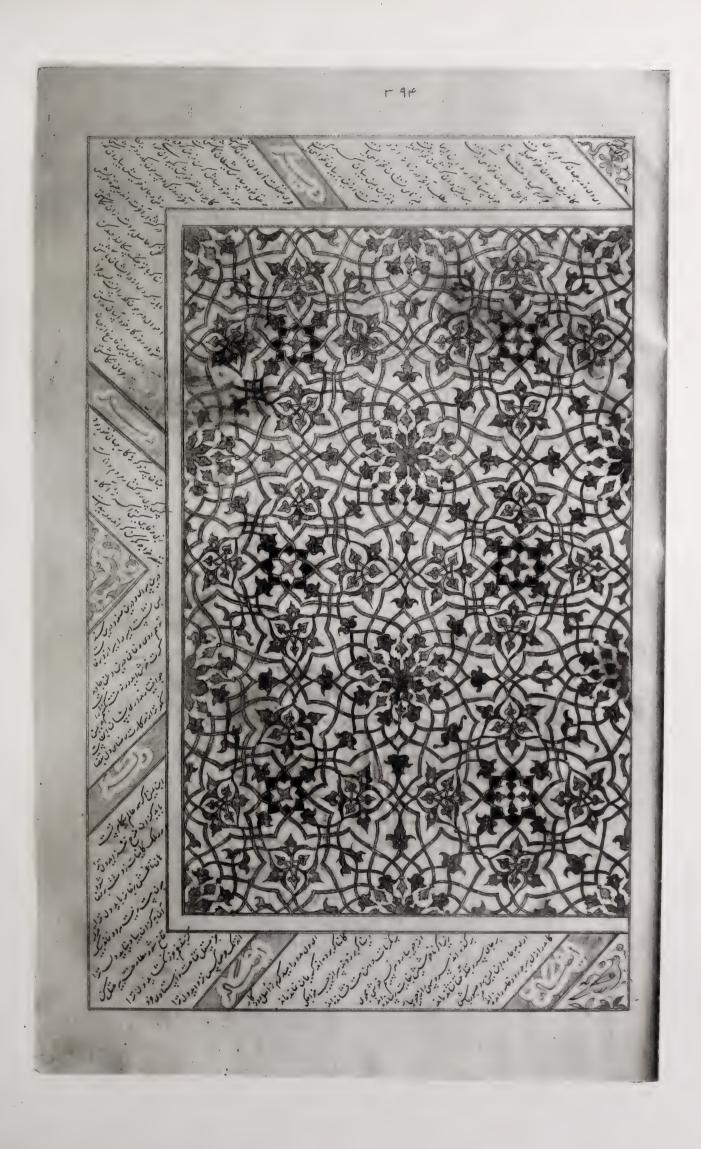


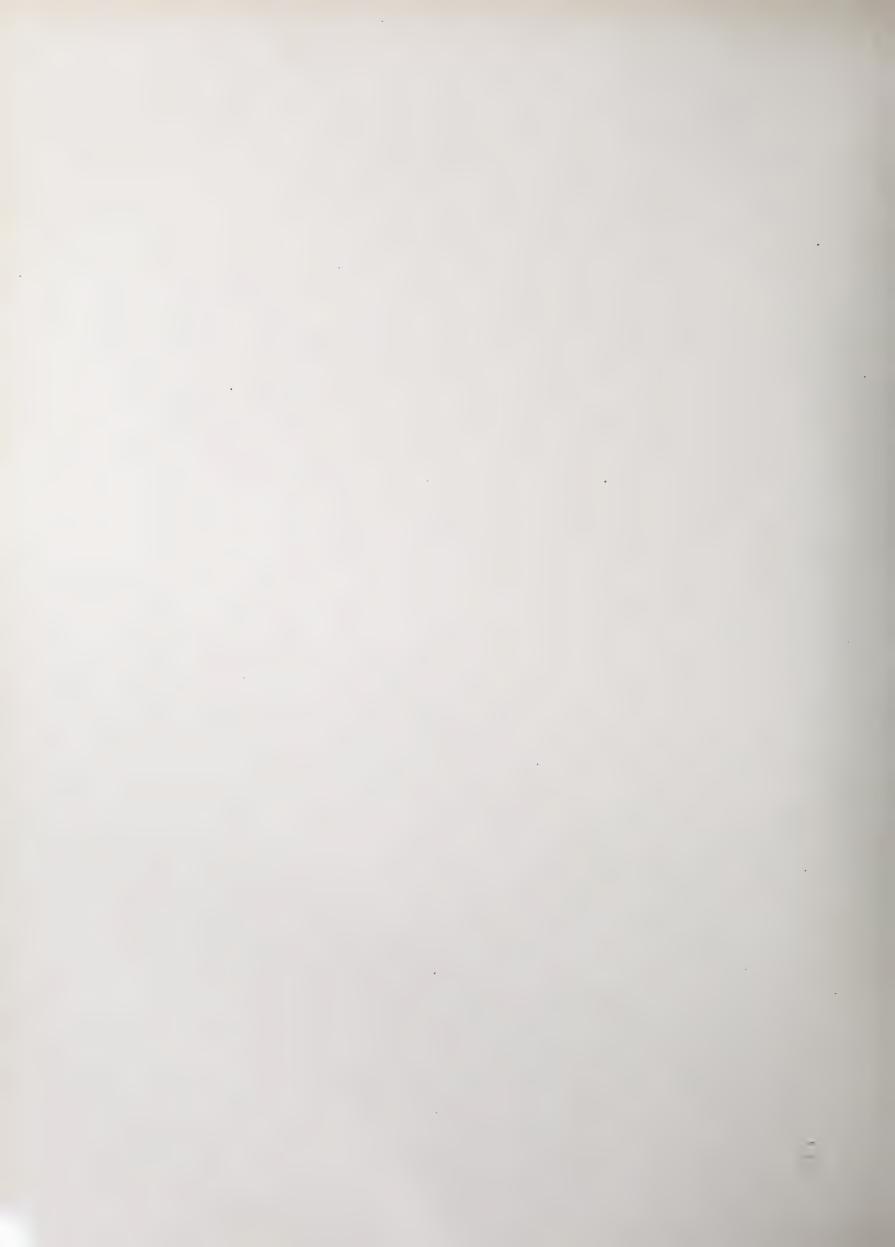








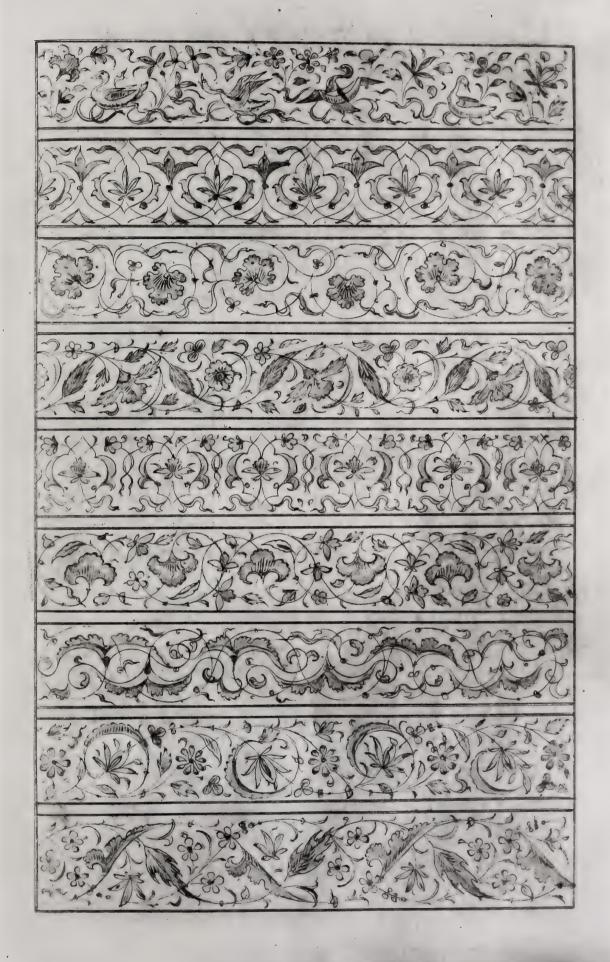








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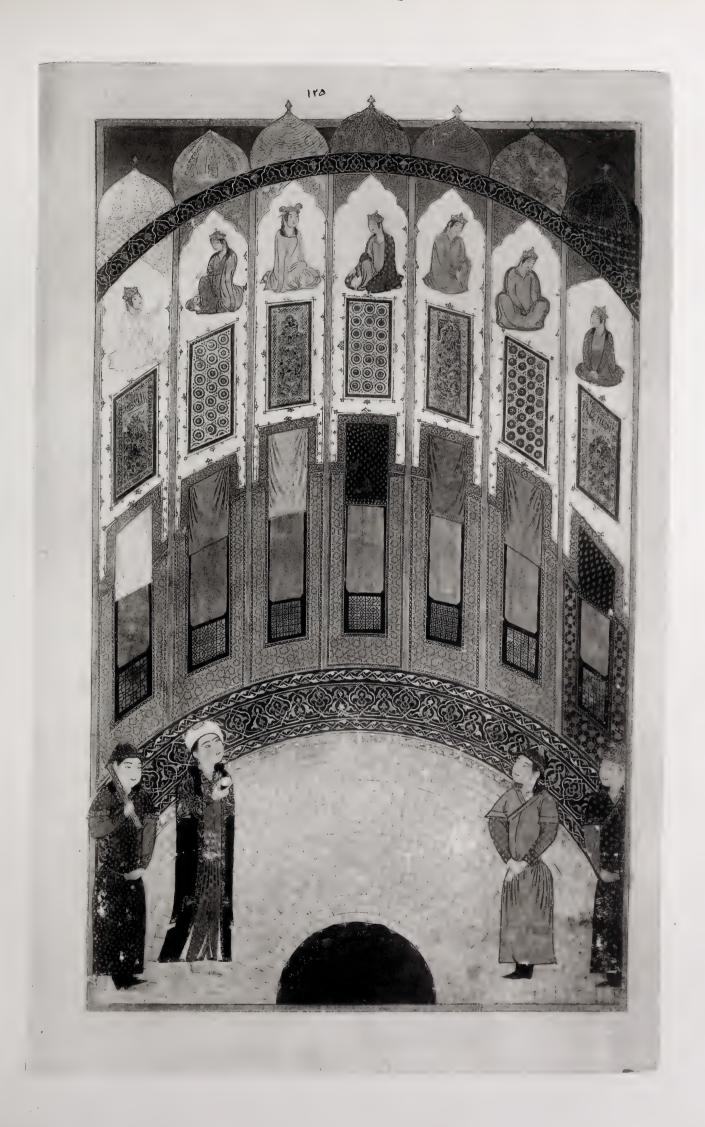


































## Manuscript No. 68 (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

## FRENCH GOSPELS

A FINE example of a MS. of the tenth century, written in a Caroline hand, with examples of the formal clean-cut initials characteristic of the period, and two drawings of Evangelists. That of St. Matthew unfinished, that of St. Mark absent.

PLATE XLV, f. 11. The letters "L" and "I" elegantly interlaced on the opening page of Matthew.

PLATE XLVI, f. 63. The letters "I" and "N" similarly interlaced on the opening page of Mark.

PLATE XLVII, ff. 99b and 100. Two pages which face one another at the beginning of St. Luke's Gospel. On the left a rude but very characteristic figure of Luke sitting on a stool and writing; his book on a lectern. His eager face is surrounded by a halo of gold, printed over green, which is also the colouring of the lectern and of the sides of the footstool. The diminutive ox which sits aloft on the curtain-rod is likewise nimbed. The drawing, except for the gold, is entirely in sepia. On the right-hand page the Gospel opens with a fine capital "Q."

PLATE XLVIII, f. 157b. The opening page of St. John, with the first two letters interlaced.

For a volume similarly adorned compare the "Atlante Paleographico-Artistico," Turin, 1899, Plate XV, where a very similar capital "R" is displayed. The MS. from which that photograph is taken contains the lives of St. Columban and his disciples, and came into the Turin Library from the Monastery of Bobbio. I presume it was burnt in the fire of 1904.





















# Manuscript No. 42 (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. First Series)

## WILLIAM OF TYRE (A)

THIS is one of two MSS. of the "History of the Crusades," by William of Tyre, which were used by Paulin Paris in his work on that author, published in Paris, in two volumes, in 1879. William (b. 1130, d. 1190) was a Frenchman, and was made Patriarch of Tyre in 1167. The volume is of interest as being almost contemporary, about sixty or seventy years after the death of the historian, and is a fine example of a Historiated Chronicle of events. The colours which predominate in the miniatures are light blue and orange scarlet.

PLATE XLIX, f. 29. The first histoire having been removed, I give the opening of Book VI as an example of the writing and general style of the volume. It represents a battle scene with an armed bishop, in mitre and mail, and a Paynim with a dragon on his round shield. It represents one of the actions before Antioch, the bishop being probably Adhemar of Le Puy.

PLATES L and LI. In these two plates are assembled all the miniatures that adorn the volume, one at the beginning of each book of the "History."



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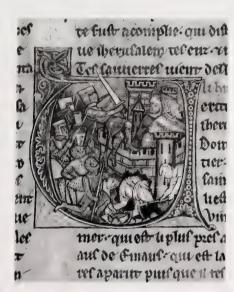
Name anguenfung quelactiez estore amfine traie-t que lagent delchaper poorent auf cipeel desnor-len finoteno totto deoro enhano ala fortevelce du donton il donta mit a ater la. Car vien sepenta que hartien afferivieno cele tour loi tention pa ce len eill part polizhos deta une Lasen avoir vour sens austino come hors du sens fle ne lanon pas bien our pout four agarain. Brancillen coor ainfin parces chanfloing delactes ine fequanz ermins le contident Albele meruelletent que ce poot ef tre Pullapartment apenferent que la cuez estor pale Local la lapsocherent del van Antono come le il la collicio en en climer fraim il fouloieno-Loso le pultremo-rabatireno atte De lespee meismes le trencherent le chief a lempre vereno en la cule file prefenceveno auf baronfedenamono Tepueple-Inelgenzelouene ucun on anvioche d'nelloueno pat detautle Linn reflorent afor portaquerre li antre por estre soudoner. Luxierz sestonent latres por fere proes e darmel spos conquore put la nelsem miebien les estres delausse. & fureno monte seur leur chenaus time arme-framencerent acres contremond leture ners le donion-Paranenture une voute de nostre gent fraund aloreng cerchang tambe lef encoura quiteur comment ful mis bardiement. Cillel nollivent elimer rfere vent des esporons comme nal si chairent de la faloi le libance que une fuvent efinie libome les armes Elicbenal Bren low anithm moze-113.c. Auchunfentor questonem delange ne-Quanvil caparnirem anna un que noz genz choient dedenz. il monterent leur Teurs chenanterion enfluent partes portes que noz genz' audient ia ouertef-poe four auf montaignef De norgenzior quiles fuitenr-relucents en camenerent que a militer en person le autre sen escaperent asen comment and montaignes. Encorleure de tierce quand laune fubion cerebie : le rassemblevent notice genv. Le Taparament que en concelande nanone pomo de una me Aea nero par merneme car le sieges auon ia du re piel de ce. most emit granz genz tattore Mel 02-ev augent pierres precientes destrans de dinerses facons Dia defore Light tapix. Tanto ianon dece-queupling pouresenedou conzeharchiez-len cronaentamileh. c delivere metuli edvient megre lasche-Linkut su petile antioche? Quant li an de lin carnation estorent mil-my uno ex don en mon de nung lettere 102 du moif. Cicomence trutelmel trucel

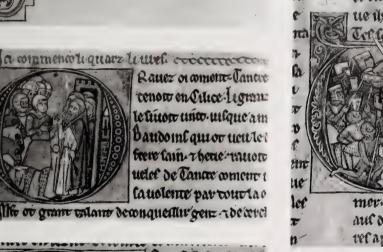
Afertonene bien laole desponde le lanc aleur anemis li peterin d de maintes rives erroneur la nemi come gene laste se venoueur amstal-puis differencentes cus qua besongue nettore mie encore peter. Ainz la lactione auchore metere alle propositione auchore metere alle propositione auchore metere alle propositione auchore auchore alle propositione auchore auchore alle propositione auchore a

now encore affer manant perti tandifaill domonf kiver aprendre qui trop chou for 7 biengarniz-dedenzles murs dela cice-[lmifteen boen nel gardel acouncilles ponct. Duns firem par contola unle cuer lassant- romandevent que tur uenissent ala tour questoien en la montaigne. Quant a laprouche tent dela-bien continent cerremement que ce neffort mie chose flen pent creve achief. Carcele forcereste ne po ow eftre pute en nute manievele par afamer non. Por et manuelleren guevel. Arrerel le weltrent a firent recommer lem geno-Cele montaigne qui é desul la use of denises en-u-sicum to dis destis pavine nalec mit parfunde Done la faloile est mit voite austin come couce aplon-La parcie quient ner conour-en pl balle Defus anne large planguelce-planne de mignef co de boennes riefgaarg nabbles laure partiedeners occident est mir plus hame Wenner wincomour enagu land. Guz enfomet de cele terres les le domions fermet de trop for mus hand a cipos Tool in grolles thautel Detters orientes deuers bule le caint ale trales fi parfun de que ce lemble enfer-lieb granz bideuvs avegarder controval len ne porvoto penfer coment entipeuf nu the deces 4 pare denois octident leternofies plus bal Girre celiterre te domon-oft une nalce quest pal mit granz ne mit withe. Parta delcent une peu remote du donion en la mile qui elt frettotte q par former uns huem agranv poce. Libaron sacciderent queilsermeroient ich perco textre por ceque aldu domion ne peutleur descendre r feve mal anor genz en la cre-Albirent-1-inur defur bort de chaux- t de sablog out mitteent prendet home faster bien armer en bre withelauculafidrow leur lemur a mangomatel e leuerens- wir prest de groot frost crun livur descen differe anal-le baron analerens en la uile porpren dre confeil des autres besoignes. Demice chose estoro que il reconcient la ture. Ademortoient ilec emout' cemur noust-infquent domonf full put fortedue Todefive que parament detouz remest par garder la porte deceient a la fortetello que nfe gent aumeno fere dehorfcele que il battlevent a Burrmont. Il ouvent noudes que al granz princes-Cobagaz de que re nos parle defics uendzow powrane - car il effort ia curvez enta tive dean Twithe. Acorde fu que Menugienvient. 1. de lettre mender



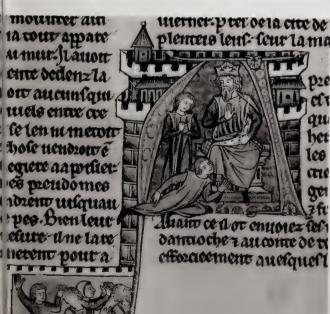


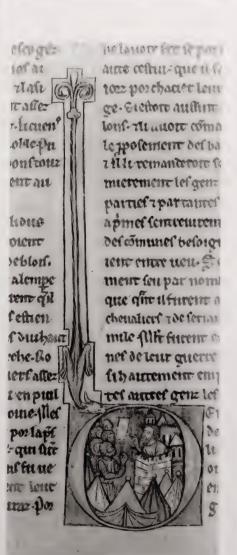




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# Manuscript No. CIII (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Fourth Series)

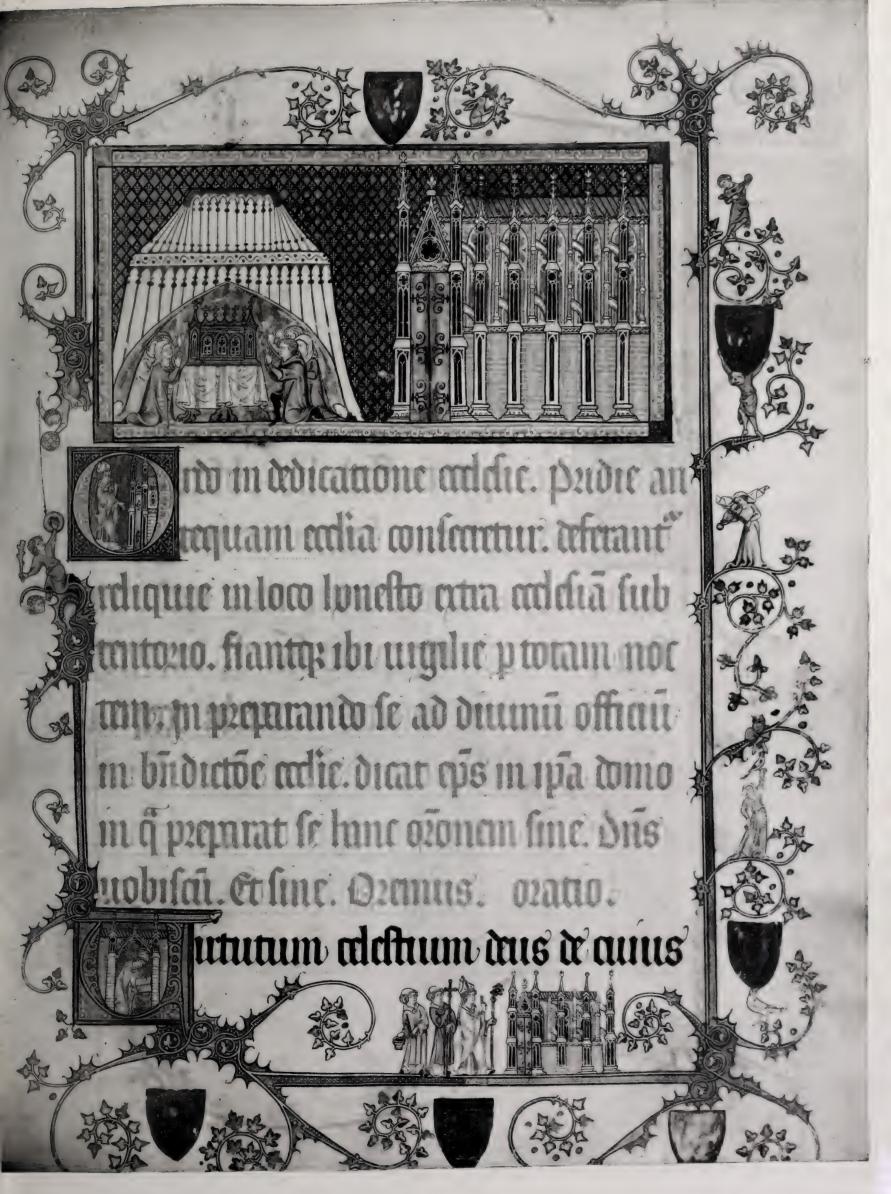
#### THE METZ PONTIFICAL

THIS marvellous book has been so admirably described and so profusely illustrated by the Rev. E. S. Dewick, that I content myself here with facsimiles of five pages, in place of the four coloured plates and ninety-six collotypes which adorned his work. The Pontifical at that time belonged to Sir Thomas Brooke, Bart., who subsequently bequeathed it to me, and who had presented Mr. Dewick's volume to the Roxburghe Club in 1902. In the long series of Roxburghe publications it is second to none, and ranks with the reproductions of the Benedictional of St. Ethelwold and the Trinity College Apocalypse, which have since rivalled, but do not surpass it.

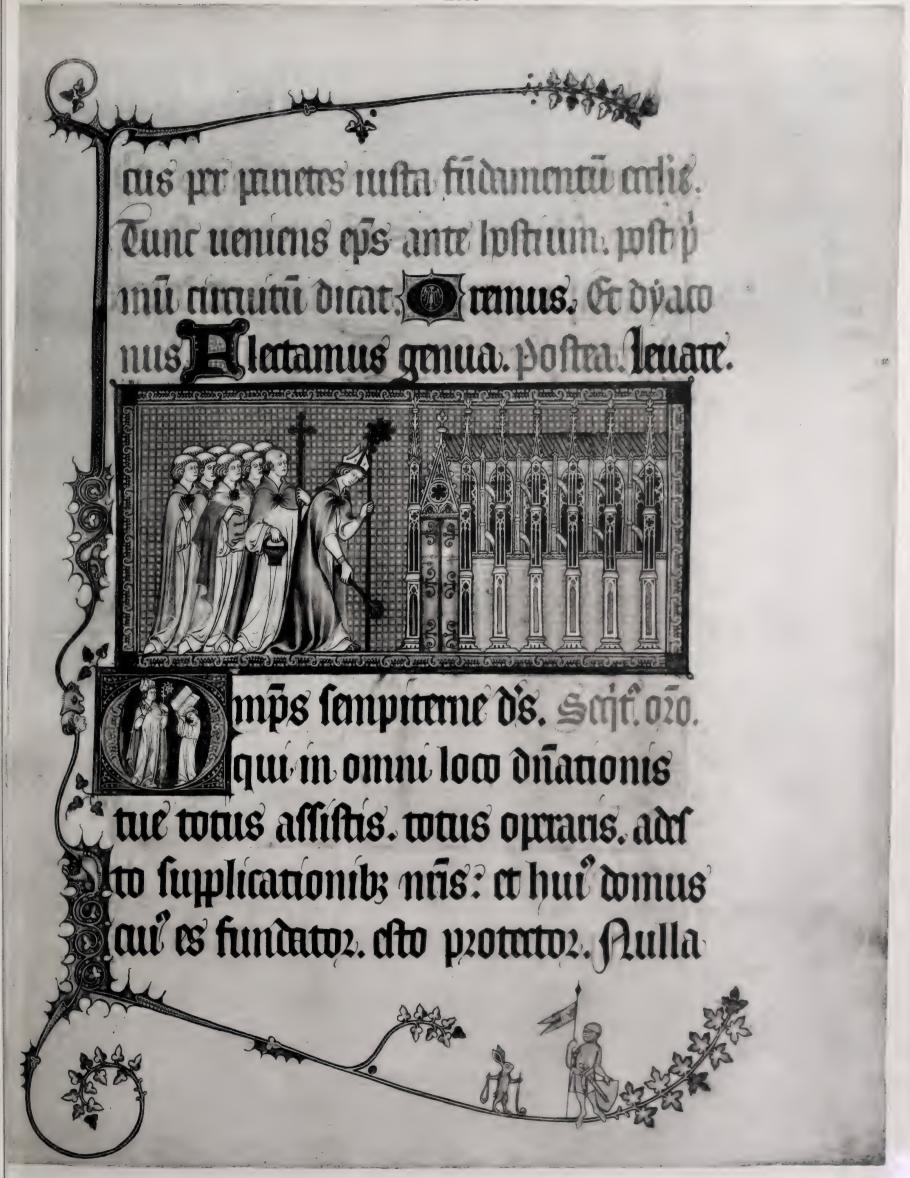
PLATE LII, f. 1. Watching the relics on the eve of the dedication. On the left is seen a white tent striped with blue, open in front, showing lay-folk, both men and women, kneeling before a reliquary which is richly gilt and decorated. This reliquary is in the form of a chapel, with three side windows and elaborate roof-cresting. By the convenient license of mediaeval perspective both gable-ends are shown at the same time. On the right is a conventional representation of the church to be dedicated. It has five bays, each with a traceried window of Geometrical Decorated style, and flying buttresses and pinnacles. The background is a diaper of burnished gold and blue lozenges, with white fleur-de-lys on the blue, and three impressed dots on each of the gold lozenges.

The page is encircled by a border of leafy branches. On the right side, male and female figures disport themselves with musical instruments or play with birds. On the left side, two grotesques are fighting, armed respectively with club and spear, and defending themselves with round targets. The armorial shields in the border have been defaced.







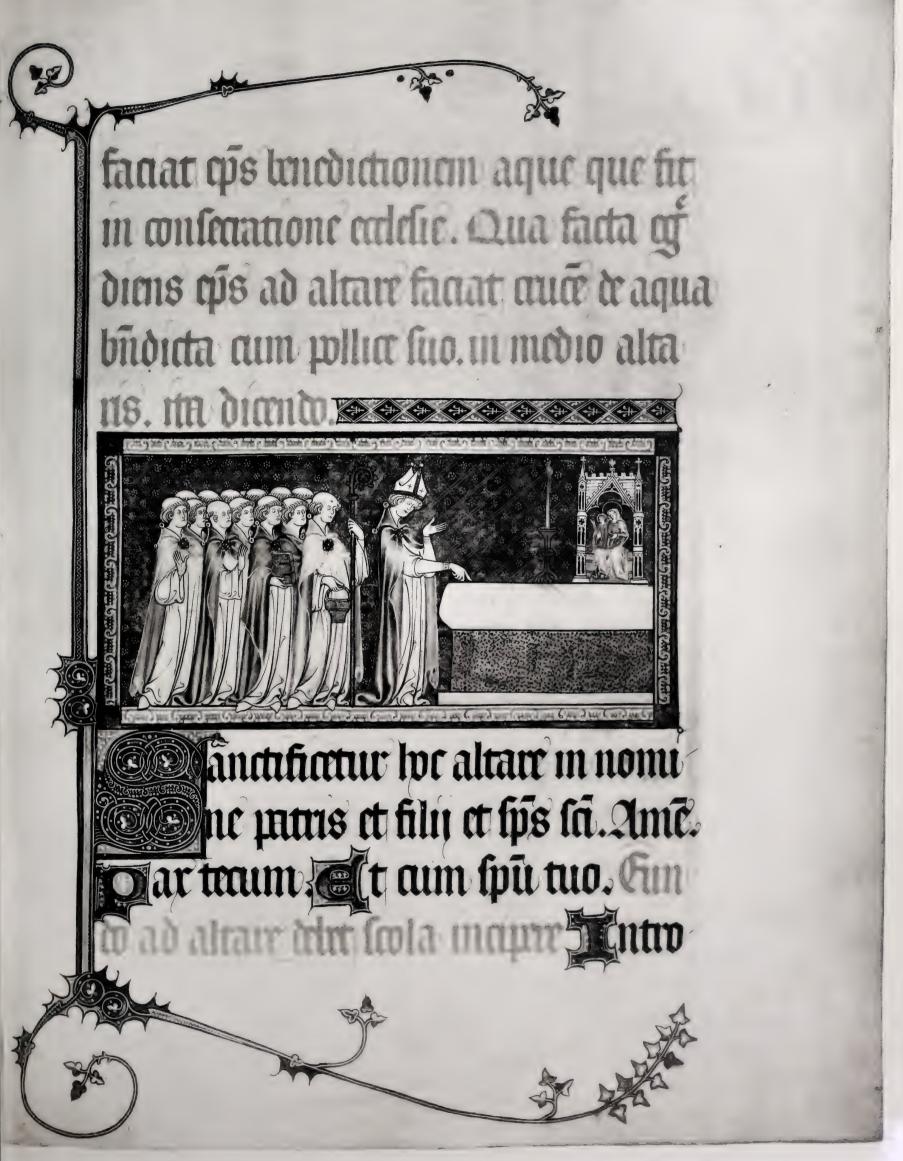




for mouches alla stola, capa sonce, mi tra cum cambuca in manu, det so in dinare super sollam principalem in mo dio dozo. Ipso indinato fiant letanic a cantozibi, usqi dum printifer engat











Inguanticationes in the de of two fanctificationes. Court upon famulti dance in regen et prophetam. I ta unguantic et consecretur in nomine tei patris, et filip, et spiritus fancti. facentes imaginem sancte cuas saluatores oni nostre ihelu ipi, qui nos amorte retenit, et ad



# Manuscript No. LXXXVII (Catalogue, H. Y. T. MSS. Third Series)

### POLYBIUS: PEROTTI'S TRANSLATION

TRUTH to say, this volume scarcely deserves its place among "the hundred." It is, however, beautifully written and, though it has no provenance, it was, when new, and the binding perfect, quite worthy of a corner in some fine library in Rome or Florence.

PLATE LVII. The binding. Original brown stamped leather, rebacked and lettered: POLYBII HISTORIARUM LIBRI V LATINE A N. PEROTTI REDD. The four clasps are missing, but the sides are in remarkably fine preservation. They are of the same pattern, a Venetian one showing Oriental influence, with a star-shaped centre and broad spaces above and below composed of closely-arranged small saltires and pellets. There is a border made up of a tool not infrequently found which bears a distant resemblance to a spread eagle. The edges have their original gilding and gauffering.

PLATE LVIII, f. 1. A good specimen of the vine ornament so fashionable in North Italy in the fifteenth century. Pope Nicholas V, to whom the translation is dedicated, was Pope from 1447 to 1455 and was a generous patron of young literary men. Perotti was twenty-five years old when Nicholas died.







NICOLAI PEROFTI PROHEMINI INLIBROS PO

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pens habeo granam quor um maiestare su gerenre inchi fauorem op perfici-Sanchtatt tue ita nisi me animus failit-quatissimum sutuk ibi nero ingentes ago gratias-agamq: dum innam-quie unum eximil us au hoc munus delegares elegisti. Nam per immortalem deum gd mibi nel in presentiarum quattus nel act posteritatis memoriam qlo nosus muno poeue of unieteiem and peconditam sed tamen egregiam ac luculentain prestantis-et sinter auctoris hystoriam inlu rem professem-et quasi de nous scribers nostres hominibus tamos per manus traderem. Mini quidem tra rocundus inclabor futut maiorem mihi fingere noluptarem no word quidem potuillem primum quiorem gerebain noluntaci tue. Cuius maxima scinpes. ac pene immortalia fuerunt enga me almeos beneficia. Deinde qua ta narietate reriun el copia inicimi na moduir, obledabar Quis-nsuanior animo cibus offerer poeste q lecho hydrone nums preser tim in qua cum magnitudine ac diversitate review of Pavium Pe dore quoquierborare merianchis est ciel agras outinale ginbu? dam quali fuminibus fententiarus properia ut milh iudeatius mo in opere Polyburs of Tunny up hystericus et manus maximus e commu



# Manuscript No. 95 (Catalogue H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

### PORTULANO BY GIOVANNI BENEDETTO

THIS most interesting volume begins with the arms of Arthur de Cossé, brother of Marshal de Brissac (b. 1512, d. 1582), for whom doubtless it was produced by G. B., those initials, with the date 1543, appearing on the border of the large mappemonde. The "Portulano" was presented to my grandfather, Joseph Brooks Yates, in 1850 by his friend, Dr. Moore of Paris, and the initials "G. B." remained mysterious until Mr. Henri Harrisse identified them as belonging to one Giovanni Benedetto, whom some treasury receipts in the reign of Francis I style "Jean-Marie dit Benedict, du pays de Siennois, expert en cosmographie," and who was evidently an Italian geographer brought to Paris in the service of the King of France. In another receipt he is styled "capitaine de navire."

PLATE LIX. The arms of Marshal de Cossé painted on an additional fold of the large mappemonde. Above, in the scrolled border of the map, which is of blue and gold, are the initials of the geographer.

PLATE LX. In this plate is given the American portion of the world-map. Here the part belonging to North America is very limited; in spite, however, of its rudimentary character, it is far in advance of any previous map extant at the time when Benedetto traced it. The position and the shape of Labrador, the gulf and the peninsula formed by the Baie des Chaleurs and that of Cape Breton; Anticosti with correct dimensions and position; Newfoundland above all, which here for the first time is shown in one piece and in its true triangular shape, with the base of the triangle fronting south and not northwards as previously, when the geographers of Dieppe decided to represent it in one piece, cause this small map to be a unique production for the middle of the sixteenth century.

If the eastern portion of North America is important on account of its accuracy, the western portion of South America is equally remarkable for its wild inaccuracy. The flags of the three great colonizing powers of the sixteenth century are displayed on their various possessions, Spain and Portugal in South America, Spain and France in North America, the flag of England still, of course, invisible in the Western world.









## Manuscript No. 96 (Catalogue H. Y. T. MSS. Second Series)

## PORTULANO BY BAPTISTA AGNESE

HE Genoese cartographer, Baptista Agnese, is known to us only L by a number of his Portulani, some sixty or seventy, which have come down to us. Some of these are signed and dated, the dates ranging from 1536 to 1564; several, like the present copy, are anonymous; but the internal evidence of authorship is so strong that it is impossible to believe they are not by the same hand as those which are signed, handwriting, dimensions and geographical character being identical. These volumes were not meant for sea captains or navigators. They were not kept up to the level of the geographical knowledge of their dates, no pains being taken to insert the most recent discoveries. They were meant to grace the tables of rich merchants or princes, and are often, as in the present case, sumptuously bound and adorned with the armorial bearings of the owner. The Emperor Charles V seems to have presented one to his son Philip, such a volume with appropriate arms having occurred in the Spitzer sale when it was sold for more than £800. The present copy was bought by Joseph Brooks Yates in Rome on 31 March 1826, as an inscription in his handwriting informs us, for 5 louis or 22 scudi.

PLATE LXI. The beautiful Venetian binding of olive morocco, with little silver hands for the four clasps. Of the many Portulani which I have seen, this is the most luxuriously bound. The coat of arms of the owner and his wife or widow are not on the binding but occur on folio 2. They are: azure, on a bend or a lion rampant gules, underneath is a lozenge-shaped shield, per pale dexter, azure, on a bend or a lion rampant gules—sinister quarterly, 1st and 4th, argent, a chevron between two birds (martlets?) sable: 2nd and 3rd, or, a cross ancrée gules.

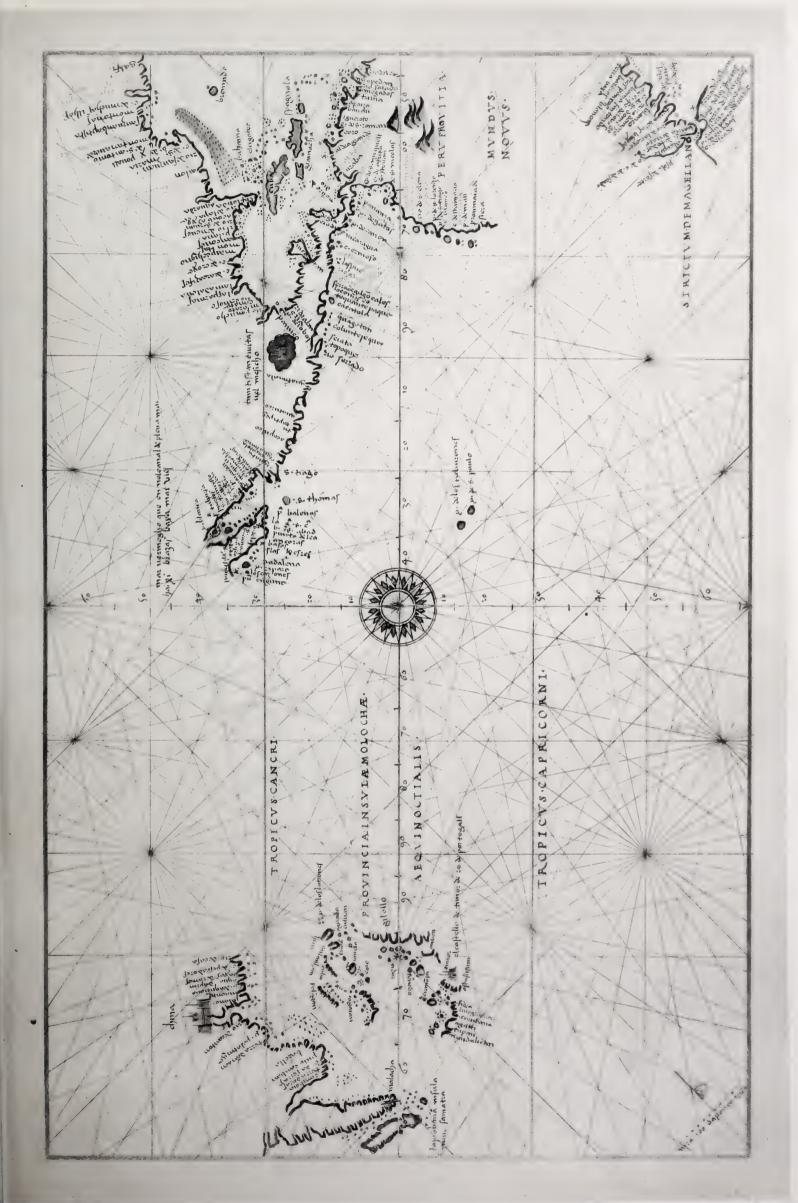








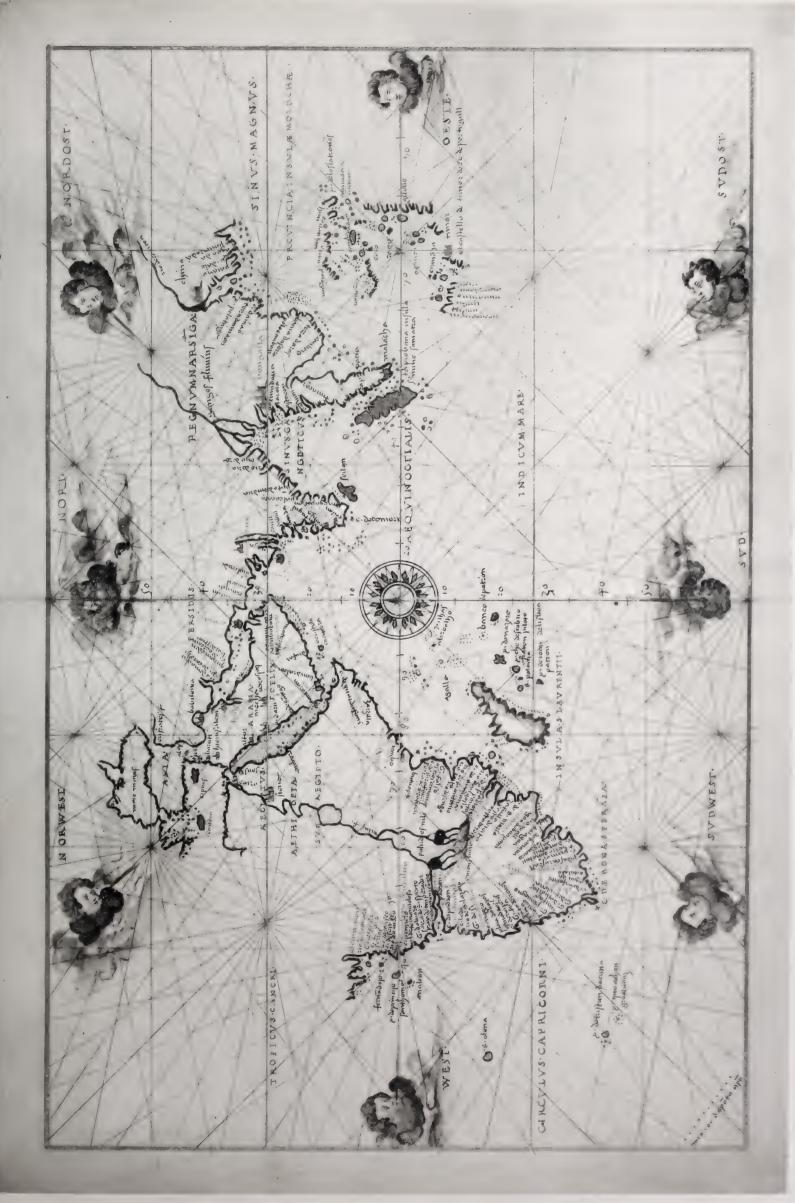








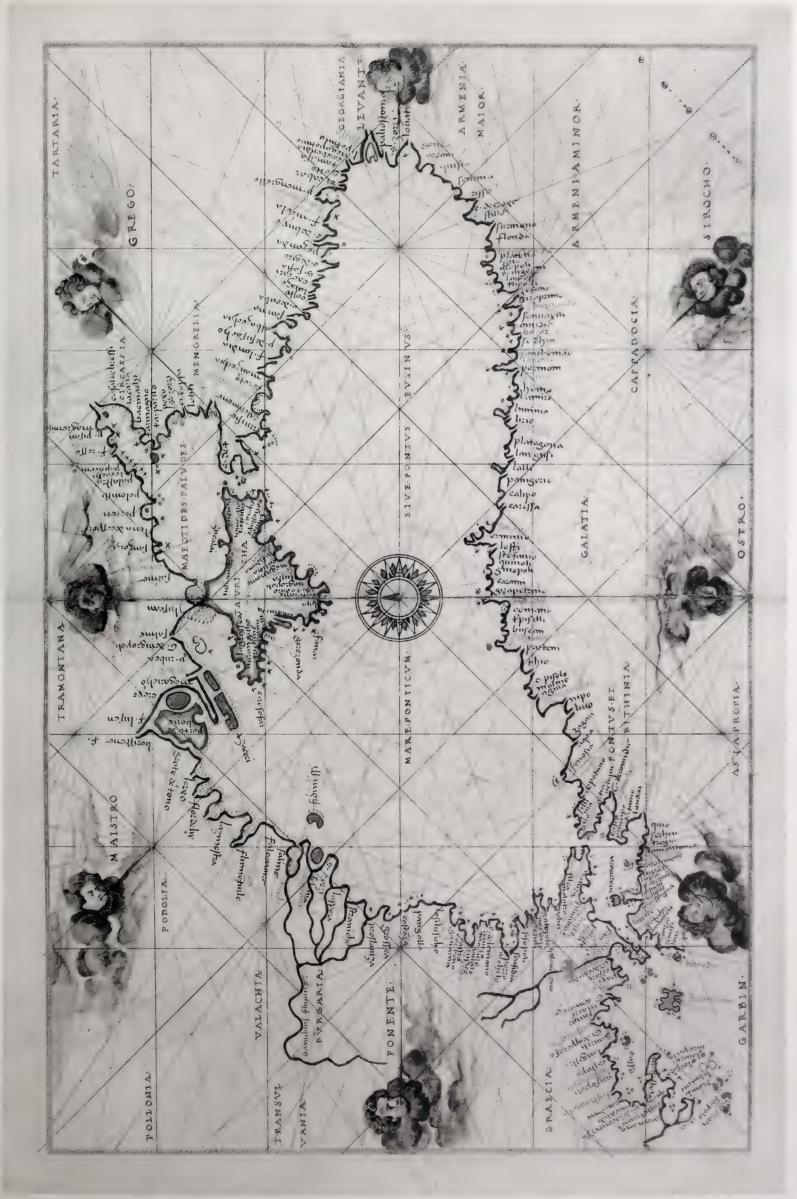




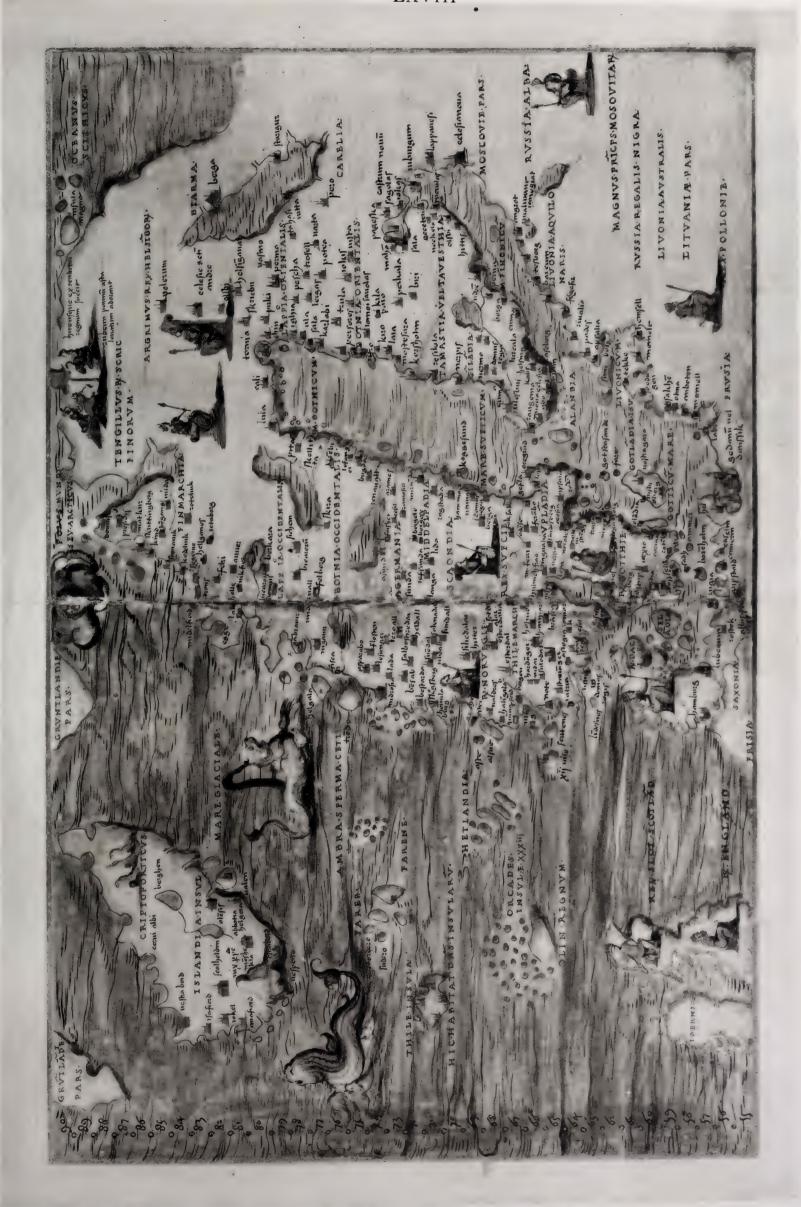




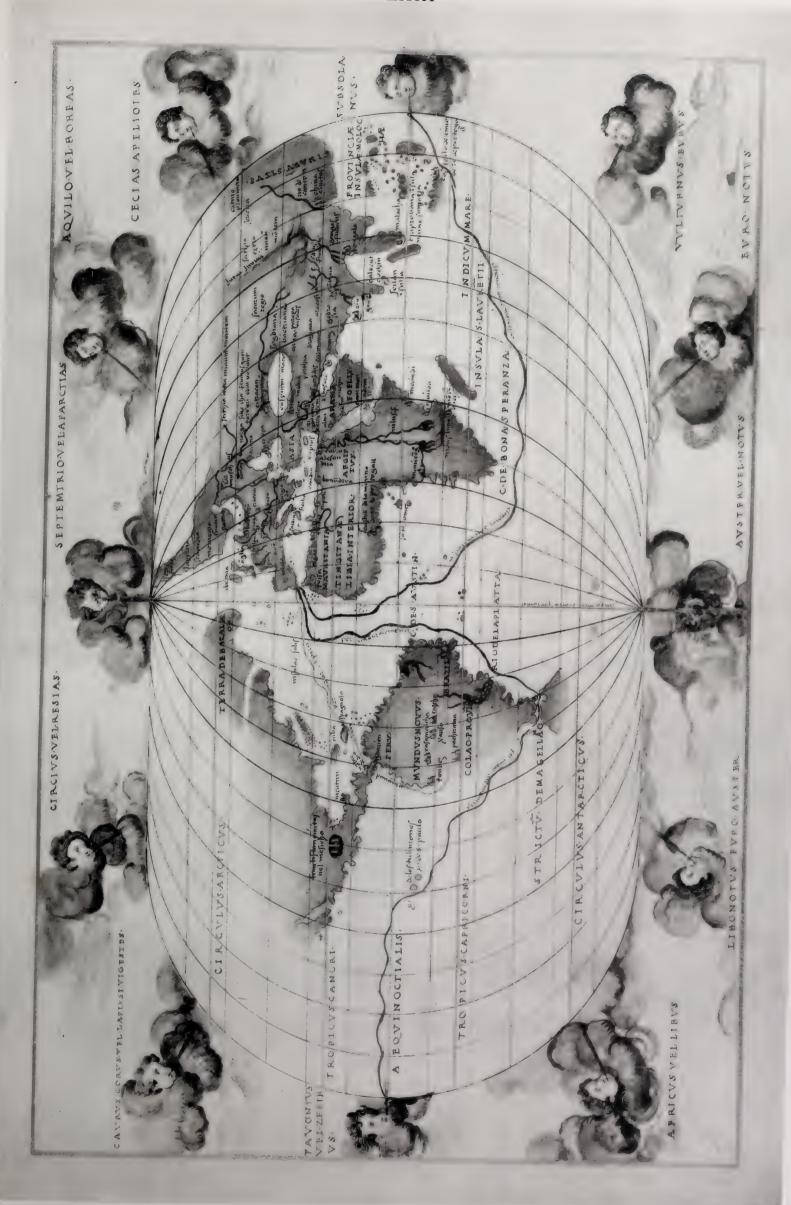


















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